

REMARKS

The present application is a Rule 53(b) divisional application of U.S. Application No. 08/991,876, filed December 16, 1997.

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed together with the divisional application papers. In the Preliminary Amendment, Applicant has cancelled original Claims 2 to 17. The only independent claim is Claim 1.

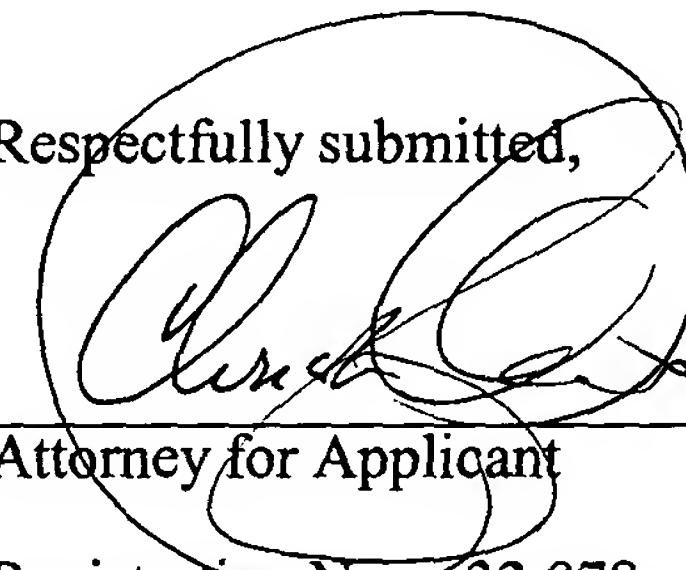
Applicant intends to file additional claim amendments shortly. If the Examiner takes up the subject application prior to receiving such supplemental preliminary amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney.

In formal matters, the specification has been amended to reference parent Application No. 08/991,876, and to enter formalities previously entered in the parent application. No new matter has been added.

By separate paper filed concurrently herewith, Applicant has submitted an Information Disclosure Statement citing the art of record in parent Application No. 08/991,876.

Applicant submit that the present Rule 53 (b) Divisional Application is in allowable form.

Applicant's attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 32,078

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
CPW\gmc

DC_MAIN 138668v1